

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
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MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tyler A. Okasaki

Fact-
Finding
Hearing

(Application for a
Manager's License)

November 5, 2014

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009, Chairperson Ruthanne Miller, presiding.

PRESENT:

RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairperson
NICK ALBERTI, Member
DONALD BROOKS, Member
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (10:08 a.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: We have Mr.
4 Okasaki?

5 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good morning.
7 And if you could identify yourself for the
8 record, please?

9 MR. OKASAKI: Sure. My name is
10 Tyler Okasaki. What else do you want to know?
11 Like my birth date or --

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No, no, no.
13 That's fine.

14 MR. OKASAKI: Okay.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So you have
16 applied for a manager's license. And we have
17 called you in to ask you a few questions,
18 because there are a couple of items that
19 raised a concern or that we have questions
20 about.

21 MR. OKASAKI: Okay.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So what we

1 have in our notes is one was possession of
2 marijuana, that was something.

3 MR. OKASAKI: Correct.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And then the
5 other thing is it seems like your license
6 was --

7 MR. OKASAKI: They suspended
8 because of the possession charge.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So
10 what I have is that once it was revoked, July
11 29, 2013, it says revoked for driving without
12 a license. And then February 11, 2009 you
13 received a citation for operating an
14 unlicensed vehicle. That's the area that we
15 have the most questions on.

16 MR. OKASAKI: Correct.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: We understand
18 why you are driving without a license.

19 MR. OKASAKI: Because I messed up.
20 I'm not going to lie.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: What?

22 MR. OKASAKI: I messed up.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So how
2 did it come about that your license was
3 revoked the first time? Why didn't you have
4 a license?

5 MR. OKASAKI: I didn't have a
6 license. I was on a restricted license
7 because of the possession. And I was caught
8 driving outside of my restricted --

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

10 MR. OKASAKI: -- license area.

11 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Area or time?

12 MR. OKASAKI: Well, I was only
13 allowed to go from -- to and from work. And
14 I was not going to or from work. I was going
15 to meet my parents for lunch, so I messed up.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So I'm not
17 sure about my dates. So when were you -- this
18 is related to possession of marijuana?

19 MR. OKASAKI: Right. Yes, so I
20 got that charge in July, I want to say, and
21 then --

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: July what

1 year?

2 MR. OKASAKI: 2012. It was like
3 two years ago.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

5 MR. OKASAKI: And then I want to
6 say right around Thanksgiving was when I was
7 caught driving on my suspended license or my
8 restricted.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So
10 then what happened?

11 MR. OKASAKI: Then I went to Court
12 for my -- because I was trying to do the ASAP
13 program for the first time and if I was clean
14 and went through the ASAP program, it would
15 get dropped.

16 Well, I got caught with driving,
17 so I got convicted of possession and then my
18 lawyer pleaded that down to a lower charge.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: What program
20 are you referring to?

21 MR. OKASAKI: I was in the ASAP
22 program where --

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: What is that
2 an abbreviation for something?

3 MR. OKASAKI: It's where if you
4 are the first time getting caught, you can go
5 to the Alcohol Safety Program.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, okay.

7 MR. OKASAKI: And if you complete
8 the 10 week class and are -- don't get in any
9 trouble for six months or a year or whatever
10 your probation is, then it gets wiped off your
11 record, the first time.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Can
13 you just tell us a little bit more about the
14 possession charge?

15 MR. OKASAKI: Sure. Me and three
16 of my friends were smoking in a parking lot
17 and a cop walked up and caught us.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

19 MR. OKASAKI: So --

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And how old
21 were you?

22 MR. OKASAKI: 23 or 24.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

2 MR. OKASAKI: Right around my
3 birthday.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So were you
5 driving without a license another time?

6 MR. OKASAKI: No.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No? This was
8 just related to --

9 MR. OKASAKI: Yes. That was one--
10 yes, that was all related in one.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All
12 right. I'm going to let others ask some
13 questions. Do you have questions, Mr.
14 Alberti?

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm not sure if I
16 have questions, but just --

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- a statement.
19 Mr. Okasaki, you are here because, you know,
20 on paper it looks like you are not making
21 responsible decisions. And as an ABC License
22 Manager, that's where people make

1 responsible --

2 MR. OKASAKI: Correct.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- decisions.

4 You know, you are monitoring how people drink
5 and how people are served alcohol, which is
6 important to us.

7 MR. OKASAKI: Right.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: I think the Chair
9 alluded to and I'm concerned especially about
10 your decision to drive outside the bounds of
11 your restrictions.

12 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's my main
14 concern, that decision.

15 MR. OKASAKI: Yes. That was a
16 really poor decision and I regret it.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So you
18 have a license now?

19 MR. OKASAKI: Yes, I do.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Did they give you
21 one? So when did they restore your license?

22 MR. OKASAKI: Right after I got

1 off of my probation. After six months of
2 being on probation, I got my license back.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Okay.
4 What do you think you learned from this?

5 MR. OKASAKI: Not to do drugs any
6 more and not to disobey the law. I mean, the
7 law is the word.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, like it or
9 not.

10 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: It's best to
12 steer clear of it, right?

13 MR. OKASAKI: Exactly, yes.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes. So where
15 are you working?

16 MR. OKASAKI: I'm working at Cafe
17 Citron now. I previously worked at O'Malley's
18 Club in Tyson's Corner. It's part of the B.F.
19 Saul Corporation right in the Crowne Plaza
20 right across from Tyson's II. I worked there
21 for two and a half years. And then I just --

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Cafe

1 Citron. Are you there permanently?

2 MR. OKASAKI: Yes. I started
3 there seven weeks ago now. And I'm there
4 full-time.

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'll put it this
6 way, Cafe Citron can sometimes have a
7 challenging clientele.

8 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: And you have
10 probably seen it in seven months, so you have
11 a good responsibility if we give you a
12 license.

13 MR. OKASAKI: Absolutely.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: I want you to
15 remember that, because you are going to have
16 people trying to push the limits of what is
17 responsible.

18 MR. OKASAKI: Yes. I see that
19 every day when I'm behind the bar already.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

21 MR. OKASAKI: It's a struggle.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. So

1 just be mindful of that, please.

2 MR. OKASAKI: Absolutely.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Any
4 other questions? And how long have you been
5 working at Cafe Citron?

6 MR. OKASAKI: Seven weeks.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Seven weeks?
8 Okay.

9 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: That's your
11 main employment?

12 MR. OKASAKI: That is my only
13 employment now.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, okay.

15 MR. OKASAKI: Yes.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Okay.
17 Any other questions?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Just remember
19 it's a privilege. Okay?

20 MR. OKASAKI: I agree.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I would move
22 that we approve this application.

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'll second it.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Any
3 other comments or anything? Okay.

4 All those in favor say aye.

5 ALL: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All those
7 opposed? All those abstaining? The motion
8 passes 4-0-0.

9 Okay. Now, this was a good
10 exercise to, you know, actually talk to you
11 about all of this.

12 MR. OKASAKI: Right.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Because
14 that's saying with the record, you know, you
15 look at it and oh, the guy has got a criminal
16 record.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, we just want
18 to make sure our license managers understand--

19 MR. OKASAKI: No, I appreciate --

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- the
21 seriousness of the responsibility that we are
22 placing on them.

1 MR. OKASAKI: Yes. And I look
2 forward to the challenge. I mean, this is
3 what I want to do for a long time.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So we
5 just have to sign-off for you.

6 MR. OKASAKI: All right.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: So we are going
9 to sign that, and if you want to process it
10 today, you can.

11 MR. OKASAKI: Yes, I brought my
12 check from my job right now.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay, great. So
14 just one moment, we will sign it and you can
15 take it to the front office.

16 MR. OKASAKI: All righty.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

18 MR. OKASAKI: And do I pay right
19 there?

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: At the front
21 office, they will give you all the
22 instructions.

1 MR. OKASAKI: Got it.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's not my
3 job.

4 MR. OKASAKI: I completely
5 understand.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Where is it?
7 Did you sign it? No, we are all going to
8 sign-off on it.

9 MR. OKASAKI: All right.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you for
12 coming.

13 MR. OKASAKI: Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Best of luck.

15 MR. OKASAKI: Appreciate it.
16 Thank you.

17 (Whereupon, the Fact-Finding
18 Hearing in the above-entitled matter was
19 concluded at 10:18 a.m.)

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22

<p>A</p> <p>a.m 2:2 14:19 abbreviation 6:2 ABC 7:21 above-entitled 14:18 Absolutely 10:13 11:2 abstaining 12:7 ago 5:3 10:3 agree 11:20 Alberti 1:16 7:14 7:15,18 8:3,8,13 8:17,20 9:3,8,11 9:14,22 10:5,9,14 10:20,22 11:18 12:1,17,20 13:8 13:13,17,20 14:2 14:11 alcohol 6:5 8:5 Alcoholic 1:2,11,11 allowed 4:13 alluded 8:9 application 1:8 11:22 applied 2:16 appreciate 12:19 14:15 approve 11:22 area 3:14 4:10,11 ASAP 5:12,14,21 aye 12:4,5</p>	<p>C</p> <p>Cafe 9:16,22 10:6 11:5 called 2:17 caught 4:7 5:7,16 6:4,17 Chair 8:8 Chairperson 1:13 1:15 2:3,6,12,15 2:22 3:4,9,17,21 4:1,9,16,22 5:4,9 5:19 6:1,6,12,18 6:20 7:1,4,7,11,17 11:3,7,10,14,16 11:21 12:2,6,13 13:4,7 14:6,10,14 challenge 13:2 challenging 10:7 charge 3:8 4:20 5:18 6:14 check 13:12 citation 3:13 Citron 9:17 10:1,6 11:5 class 6:8 clean 5:13 clear 9:12 clientele 10:7 Club 9:18 COLUMBIA 1:1 come 4:2 coming 14:12 comments 12:3 complete 6:7 completely 14:4 concern 2:19 8:14 concerned 8:9 concluded 14:19 Control 1:2,11,11 convicted 5:17 cop 6:17 Corner 9:18 Corporation 9:19 Correct 3:3,16 8:2 couple 2:18 Court 5:11 criminal 12:15</p>	<p>Crowne 9:19</p> <p>D</p> <p>D.C 1:12 date 2:11 dates 4:17 day 10:19 decision 8:10,14,16 decisions 7:21 8:3 disobey 9:6 DISTRICT 1:1 DONALD 1:16 drink 8:4 drive 8:10 driving 3:11,18 4:8 5:7,16 7:5 dropped 5:15 drugs 9:5</p> <p>E</p> <p>employment 11:11 11:13 especially 8:9 Exactly 9:13 exercise 12:10</p> <p>F</p> <p>Fact 1:6 Fact-Finding 14:17 favor 12:4 February 3:12 Finding 1:6 fine 2:13 first 4:3 5:13 6:4,11 forward 13:2 friends 6:16 front 13:15,20 full-time 10:4</p>	<p>great 13:13 guy 12:15</p> <p>H</p> <p>half 9:21 happened 5:10 Hearing 1:7,12 14:18</p> <p>I</p> <p>identify 2:7 II 9:20 important 8:6 instructions 13:22 items 2:18</p> <p>J</p> <p>job 13:12 14:3 July 3:10 4:20,22</p> <p>K</p> <p>know 2:10 7:19 8:4 12:10,14</p> <p>L</p> <p>law 9:6,7 lawyer 5:18 learned 9:4 license 1:8 2:16 3:5 3:12,18 4:2,4,6,6 4:10 5:7 7:5,21 8:18,21 9:2 10:12 12:18 lie 3:20 limits 10:16 little 6:13 long 11:4 13:3 look 12:15 13:1 looks 7:20 lot 6:16 lower 5:18 luck 14:14 lunch 4:15</p>	<p>manager's 1:8 2:16 managers 12:18 marijuana 3:2 4:18 matter 1:4 14:18 mean 9:6 13:2 meet 4:15 MEETING 1:3 Member 1:16,16,17 4:11 7:15,18 8:3,8 8:13,17,20 9:3,8 9:11,14,22 10:5,9 10:14,20,22 11:18 12:1,17,20 13:8 13:13,17,20 14:2 14:11 messed 3:19,22 4:15 met 1:11 MIKE 1:17 Miller 1:13,15 2:3 2:6,12,15,22 3:4,9 3:17,21 4:1,9,16 4:22 5:4,9,19 6:1 6:6,12,18,20 7:1,4 7:7,11,17 11:3,7 11:10,14,16,21 12:2,6,13 13:4,7 14:6,10,14 mindful 11:1 moment 13:14 monitoring 8:4 months 6:9 9:1 10:10 morning 2:6 motion 12:7 move 11:21</p>
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